



August 19, 2011

The **City of Franklin and Williamson County** welcomed officials from **Kurdistan, a Providence of Northern Iraq** this morning at the **Franklin Police Department**. **Franklin Mayor, Dr. Ken Moore, Williamson County Mayor Rogers Anderson and State Senator Jack Johnson** were on hand to meet the Chief Judge of the Military Supreme Court; the Administrative Director, Ministry of Religion; the Public Relations Officer, Ministry of Religion and the Mullah of the Mufti Mosque. The group shared their amazing personal stories which include two men from the delegation who are brothers narrowly escaping deadly attacks by Saddam Hussein during the persecution of the Kurdish people. The Mullah who visited was the first in his country to denounce the 9-11 attacks as a crime against humanity. Non-profit organizations **Habitat for Humanity (John Besser)** and **Hard Bargain Mt. Hope Redevelopment (Brant Bousquet)** were also at the meeting. **Chief Rahinsky, Chief Garzarek, and I** spoke to the group about City operations and community involvement. The meeting was organized by Franklin resident **Hugh Harris and his wife Lisa** through the **Servant Group International**, and **Yousif Matty of the Classical School of the Medes** in Kurdistan. The reason for the meeting was to exchange ideas and best practices from our communities. Special thanks to **Mary Ann Buentello** for organizing this educational event.



On Thursday the **Department of Planning and Sustainability** made a site visit to Chattanooga. They looked at new development occurring in the revitalizing North Shore area, redevelopment along East Main Street, and walked the grounds of Coolidge Park. They also met with staff from **Chattanooga's Office of Sustainability** to discuss their success rebuilding downtown, their initiative to get 100 green roofs, remote censored LED street light installation, and the work they are doing with high speed rail to connect Chattanooga with Atlanta.

Congratulations to three of the City staff who were accepted into the **Leadership Franklin program**; **Eric Gardner of the Engineering Department**; **Catherine Powers of Planning and Sustainability**; and **Bruce Bateman from our Police Department**. **Shauna Billingsley** and **Milissa Reiersen** will both be chairing two of the days this year; Government Day, and Media and Entertainment Day. This is a nine month commitment supported by more than 150 alumni in Franklin.

Congratulations to the **Parks Department** for a job well done. Here is a quote from a recent letter from one of the participants in the Senior Olympics.

*"The venue for the softball competition at Fieldstone Farms was almost perfect. The fields were well maintained and in good playing condition; the venue was centrally located and easy to reach from our stay at the Marriot; the hospitality of the staff, directors and volunteers was outstanding; and best of all, the free food and drink was extremely generous and greatly appreciated by everyone. **And, importantly, the officiating crew was well trained and impartial and their efforts contributed to the enjoyment of the competition. In talking with my teammates, we all would like to return next year. Franklin is the perfect place for the Olympics and everyone with the City and the County associated or connected with this event should be extremely proud of the way that it was presented.***

*Very truly yours,
Rex L. Brasher Jr.*

Now, here are some kind words from the Parks Department about a job well done by the **Franklin Police Department**.

"Good Morning Kevin, Ryan and Chief!

*I wanted to take a few minutes of your time this morning to give 'kudos' to dispatcher on duty yesterday afternoon. Four high schools, two of which were not Williamson County Schools, began setting up, warming up for their Cross Country meet about 5pm. Around this time I noticed the skies begin to darken and could hear and see lightning to our West. I called dispatch on the radio and asked that they call me on my cell phone. I received a prompt call from Mike Fay and told him where I was and my concerns for the safety of students and adults. Mike relayed the possible dangers of the incoming storm and told me he would check for further details and call me back. In less than 5 minutes, Mike was back on the radio describing the impending dangers of hail, high winds and lightning. **Mike's prompt and professional response to my concerns provided me the timely opportunity to send students to the buses and adults to their vehicles without causing panic. I appreciate our working relationship and I appreciate Mike's patience in dealing with my concerns."***

*Best Regards,
Anna Shuford*

We have a **blood drive** scheduled for August 25th at City Hall. To donate, contact moniquem@franklintn.gov or 550-6606.

MIT's Grant Jenkins is the winner of the Mayor's parking spot next week! **Lanaii Benne, from Administration nominated Grant.** Lanaii said, "Grant set up a "temporary" office for staff of a recent international conference held here. His expertise was appreciated by event planners when he set up laptops, printers, and networked everything so that business could be conducted for the week they were here. I received many "thank yous" from the event staff for his help, and want to pass this along!" Grant will begin parking in the Mayor's spot on Monday, August 22-26. **If you see someone doing a good job, nominate them at agoodjob@franklintn.gov.**

Have a nice weekend Thank you for all you do.

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